

# HOPE Waiver Amendment

## Summary of Changes

The Department of Human Services (DHS) Division of Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) is committed to ensuring that South Dakotans can live and receive services in the most integrated setting according to the individual's preferences and needs. In an effort to make progress towards this initiative, LTSS is submitting an amendment to the Home and Community-Based Options and Person Centered Excellence (HOPE) Waiver which serves South Dakotans age 65 and older as well as individuals age 18 and older who have a qualifying disability.

In March 2017, SD Senate Bill 147 was passed. This bill requires The Department of Social Services and the Department of Human Services to jointly establish a rate-setting methodology for services delivered by home and community-based service providers. The bill requires each category of service to undergo a comprehensive rate modeling analysis at least every five years. The Assisted Living Rate methodology workgroup was held, as required by SB 147, and as a result an updated tiered Rate Methodology was recommended. The tiered methodology, along with funding to support it, was approved during the FY20 Legislative Session. The purpose of this amendment is to secure approval for the proposed tiered rate methodology and enhance home and community-based services for individuals eligible for the HOPE Waiver.

South Dakota is committed to a rebalancing of Medicaid expenditures through several initiatives led by the Division of Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) to ensure South Dakotans can live and receive services in the most integrated setting according to the individuals preferences and needs. This amendment also includes updates that will allow for continued progress toward LTSS' initiative to expand and enhance home and community-based services for individuals eligible for the HOPE Waiver. These enhancements include the addition of adult day centers as a provider type for personal care and respite care to ensure the most integrated access to service; modifications to projections to increase the number of participants that South Dakota can support through the HOPE waiver; addition of language to ensure HOPE waiver consumers participate in the most appropriate service/program available to them when it is the most cost effective option for the State.

Finally, a correction to required background checks from "FBI Background Checks" to "State Fingerprint Background Check", as well as an update to the frequency of onsite reviews for in home services provider from once a year to once every third year.

In summary, the following amendments are being requested to the HOPE Waiver:

1. Update the Assisted Living rate methodology to include rate tiers as proposed by the Assisted Living Rate Methodology Workgroup
2. Addition of adult day as a provider type for personal care and respite care to ensure HOPE waiver participants can access services in the most integrated setting available to them
3. Addition of language to ensure consumers participate in most appropriate service/program available to them when it is the most cost-effective option for the State.
4. Update HOPE waiver projections to include new assisted living rate methodology, and increased participants and increased expenditures
5. Update background check requirement from "FBI Background Checks" to "State Fingerprint Background Check"
6. Update to the frequency of onsite visits for in home service providers.

The HOPE Waiver amendment is available online at

<http://dss.sd.gov/keyresources/hearings.aspx> or

<http://dhs.sd.gov/ltss/titlexix.aspx> or by contacting the Division of Long Term Services and Supports at 605-773-3656 to request a printed copy.

The proposed HOPE waiver is available for public comment for 30 days beginning May 8, 2020 through June 7, 2020. DHS appreciates your questions and comments. Comments may be made by e-mail to [hcbs@state.sd.us](mailto:hcbs@state.sd.us), by phone at 605-773-3656, or by mail to:

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